PUBLIC (ELECTIONS) (195) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 1382

1382

Dated 5th June, 1948.

[Despatch Abstract.]

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - BUDGET DISCUSSION - DEMAND X - CUT MOTIO DISCUSS ABOUT THE INTERFERENCE OF M.L.As. WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF DI OFFICIALS - PAPERS RECORDED.

DEMAND NO.XI.

686 Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A.

To reduce the allotment of Rs.6,23,08,100 for district Administration and Miscellaneous by Rs.100/-

(To discuss about the interference of M.L.A. of party in power with the administration of District Officials)

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Public u.o.

sd. x x x,
6-3-1948

Public (Elections) Department.

Please see the copy of cut motion above. The M.L.A. wishes to discuss about the interference of M.L.A. of party in power with the administration of District Officials. The M.L.A. does not quote any specific instance in which an M.L.A. has interfered with the administration of District Officials. He will perhaps explain at the time he moves the cut motion.

2. Certain cases have come to the notice of Government in which the M.L.As. have interfered with the administration of the District Officials. They are:--

(1) Interference by an M.L.A. Srimathi Mahalakshmamma, with the police officials, in Kistna district. This was brought to the notice of Government by the Inspector-General of Police. Hon'ble Premier wrote a D.O. advising the M:L.A.

(2) Interference by an M.L.A. Sri S. Nagaraja Maniagar with the Sub-Magistrate, Hosur, Salem District. This was brought to the notice of the Government by the Collector of Salem who was told that the M.L.A. was wrong in having interfered with the Sub-Magistrate and that if the M.L.A. wanted any information, he should have addressed the Collector, direct; and

(3) Interference by an M.L.A. Sri Paramananda Royar, with the District Panchayat Officer, South Arcot, the former having the latter to produce the diary, T.A. Bills etc. This was brought to the notice of Government by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards. The Government agreed with the Inspector that the procedure adopted by the M.L.A. was wrong and that the District Panchayat Officer should not have produced the diary and T.A. Bills to the M.L.A.

It may also be mentioned that Government have issued instructions to Collectors etc., on the question whether the members of the Legislature (of whatever party or sub-party) are in a privileged position viz-a-vis members of the public and whether they can ask for information from the local officers and whether such local officers can disclose factual information to them - please see G.O.No.1398, Public (Elections) dated 12-5-1947.

The file may now be circulated to H.M.(L.&R.)

Recently the First Member of the Board of Revenue submitted a memorandum to Government in which he stated that certain Pliticians (including M.L.As.) where bringing pressure on the district officials - Revenue Officers and magistrates - to "comply" with their request or to pass a particular order and requested Government to issue a circular assuring Govt. servants that they need not fear that they would be penalised for failure to comply with the requests of the politicians.

In that file, H.Pr. agreed that an opportunity could be taken to give an oral assurance that so long as Govern ent servants are right and have conferred themselves to t rules or regulat they need not fear that they will be penalised. The file has been circulated to H.Pr. to give the oral assurance.

Sd. x x x,
10-3-1948

H.Pr. O.P.R.,11/3/1948
H.M.(Rev) sd. x x x,21/4/

Pages 1-2 ante may be perused. Demand XI for grant for the year 1948-49 was carried in the Legislative Assembly on 24-3-1948. No action at present seems called for on this file. The receipt of the printed proceedings may be awaited. (R.D.26-6-1948)

sd x x x,
26-6-1948.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB Bahadur: "The Hon.Home Minister said that I mentioned it thrice. I am sorry to say that I have repeated it thrice without any response fro the Hon. Minister. He says he has no official notice of it and he cannot care of correspondence passing between others though ~~he~~ charges have been made that they are interfering with th administration of the judiciary. This is repeated for the fourth time so that Government may come forward with their reply. About the way in which the Premier has managed the M.L.C. matter, the less said the better. The Government is not aware that there is discontent in all the offices in every district and taluk and they do not know what the consequences in future will be. They think that they have defeated them and subdued them and that they have suceeded. But this movement is not, for the moment curbed. They are prosecuted and persecuted. Only yesterday, the office-bearers of the Non-Gazetted Officers' Association have been asked to show cause why they should not be seriously dealt with. The Government can never be run with discontent on the part of their subordinates and the consequences can be known only in the future. The other day, I said and in spite of the protests of the Home Minister, I still repeat there is corruption in this Province, in every district and in every office".

Sir, I want to say how the administration is run. In the Kistna district, I know one case but that I cannot give the names, because you, Mr. Speaker, asked me not to give names. In the Kistna district, it happened like this. One M.L.A. was sitting in the Collector's house in one room and one Tahsildar came out saying:"sir, because the Prakasam Group recommended my transfer, I am transferred". At once a member of this House who belongs to the party-in-power, said, 'No, you cannot be transferred because Prakasam Gorecommended it', when he entered the Collector's room, and the transfer orders were cancelled. I am in a position to give facts and figures and mention names but you gave ruled that we should not give names. I will not multiply instances. People here can follow the consequences of these instances. The Hon. the Premier is not here as usual. He is having only one portfolio, the Firka Development Scheme. When the present Ministers were not in power, they used to say so much about the way in which the previous appointments were made by Mr.Prakasam. But what has happened now? The Premier has appointed a Deputy Commissioner of Rural Development without advertising for the job, without seeing what the qualifications of the individual are and without asking the advice of the Commission. I do not know how the Hon. the Premier was pleased to appoint a man without doubtful qualifications on a salary of rupees 500".

Mr.SPEAKER:-"The Hon. Member has got one more minute".

'MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB Bahadur:"Sir, is this not jobbery and nepotism, against which they were complainmng while they were not in the Ministry? It is all fishy and I have to refer to it, because they have been saying that proper steps should be taken in the matter of these appointments. The other day, I was referring to some appointments made by the Hon. Minister for Industries. Hr was not present in this House then, but he is now present here. He has appointed Labour Officers Ewithout advertising for the posts on a salary of two hundred rupees. These instances are enough to show that they are not in tmue to their professions".

Mr.SPEAKER:-"The time allowed for the hon. Member is over".

The Hon. Sri KALA VENKATA RAO:-"I would have very much appreciated Mr. Salam if he had got into touch with me earlier and brought this fact to my notice. I would have done what all is possible from this end to see that such things do not happen.

I must confess on the floor of the House that certain M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. are trying to place their point of view before the District Officers and get redress in big cases and perhaps in small cases too. The Government have with them - I have got them in my own file - some complaints from our officers that certain M.L.As. have asked them to do such and such things, that they have not done them, and asking whether they should do them or not. We have already got such complaints and we may get them hereafter also. It is not just for me to read them on the floor of the House. What I have said is enough to impress the House that the Government are in active touch with the problem. I am certain that my Hon. Friends will got go to the extent of influencing District Officers in judicial matters. If there is any particular instance, I would request the hon. Members to pass on to the Government for information that they possess. Z

Mr. SPEAKER:-"I shall now put the original motion to the vote of the House. The question is -

'that under Demand XI - District Administration and Miscellaneous, the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.6,23,08,100'".

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Mr.SPEAKER:"I adjourn the House to meet to-morrow at 11 O'cl

The House adjourned.

Please see the cut motion on pages 1-2 ante and the extract of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly above. The points raised by the proposer of the motion have been answered by the H.M.(Revenue) - vide portion 'Z' above. Demand XI for grant for the year 1948-49 was put to vote on the floor of the House and was carried on 24-3-1948. No further action is called for in this file. The papers may be recorded ina G.O.'

sd. x x x, 4/6/48

G.O.Ms.No.1382, dated 5th June 1948.

Abs: MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - Budget discussion - Demand X - Cut motion to discuss about the interference of M.L.As. with the administration of District Officials - Papers - Recorded.

/True Copy/

RS/8/1/1954

OFFICE ASSISTANT,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.